Identification of National Priorities by the Technology Policy Implementation Committee

31. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inter-departmental group established by the Technology Policy Implementation Committee, has identified specific areas of high national priorities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Technology Policy Implementation Committee (TPIC) has not established any inter departmental group. However, they had constituted a number of working groups related to the following areas of national importance:

—Design Engineering Consultancy
—Fiscal Policy
—Technology Forecasting
—Technology Development Fund
—International R&D Collaborations
—Technology absorption
—Techaologp Data Bank
—Technology Assessment & Evaluation
—Recyclying of Wastes
—Technology Monitoring
—Industrial Property Rights
—Development Contracts
—Environmental Hygiene

Non-inclusion of Advocates in Social Category for Grant of New Telephone Connections

32. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that advocates are not included in the special category for the purpose of granting of a new telephone connection; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRI DHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only professionals like Doctors etc., who have to deal with cases of emergency nature are eligible for registration under Non-OYT Special Category. Advocates do not satisfy this criterion. However, legal aid committees, which render legal aid to the poor are entitled for special category.

Imported Machine Lying Unused in AIIMS, New Delhi

33. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE :
SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in 'the Hindustan Times', dated 31st May, 1989 under the caption 'Rs. 2 crore machine at AIIMS lying unsued'

(b) if so, whether Government have since inquired into the matter as to how the machine for dissolving kidney stone, imported by AIIMS, has not been used for the last one year ;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not using the machine and whether Government propose to fix any responsibility in the matter ; and